

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL DAY OF REASON

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thursday, May 1, 2014 as the National Day of Reason.

The National Day of Reason celebrates the application of reason and the positive impact it has had on humanity. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm the Constitutional separation of religion and government.

Each day, scientists and engineers in my Silicon Valley district are developing innovative new technologies through the use of the scientific method and the application of reason. Such advances throughout history have offered hope for human survival on Earth, improved the conditions within which we live, and cultivated intelligent, moral and ethical behaviors and interactions among people.

Our Founding Fathers based the Constitution of the United States upon philosophical principles that have their origins in the historical Age of Reason. On the National Day of Reason, we remember and celebrate this history, including the First Amendment's guarantee of freedom of religion and freedom from the imposition of religion by the state. Our nation's founders knew that the best way to protect religious freedom was to keep the government separate from religion.

The National Day of Reason is also a time to continue the effort our Founding Fathers began to form a more perfect union, something I work toward each day as a Member of Congress. Every year on this day, events such as food drives and blood drives are held in which Americans help their fellow citizens and our nation as a whole. These community service events are just some of the many ways Americans will be working to help those in need on the Day of Reason and throughout the year.

I encourage all citizens, residents and visitors to join in observing this day and focusing upon the employment of reason, critical thought, the scientific method, and free inquiry to the resolution of human problems and for the welfare of human kind.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL ANIMAL ADVOCACY DAY

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of National Animal Advocacy Day. National Animal Advocacy Day encourages citizens to speak up to help secure meaningful protections for animals at the federal, state, and local levels.

On this National Animal Advocacy Day, I want to speak up for the humane treatment of our nation's horses. I ask the House of Representatives to pass H.R. 1094, the Safeguard American Food Exports Act, or SAFE Act. This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleague from Illinois, Rep. JAN SCHAKOWSKY, bans horse slaughter for human consumption and the export of horses for the same. Until a ban is in place, every horse is just one bad sale away from being sent to slaughter. I've seen this happen in my own district, and it must be stopped.

Horses are not bred for human consumption. Unlike dogs or cats, horses are routinely treated with drugs that can be toxic to humans. Horses are often transported without food, water, or rest in dangerously overcrowded trailers to endure an inhumane slaughter process.

Passage of the SAFE Act will not only protect our nation's horses. It will also protect consumers from exposure to the toxic chemicals found in horsemeat. Horses have a special place in our nation's history. Surveys show that 80 percent of American voters oppose the slaughter of horses for human consumption. It's a bill whose time has come. The SAFE Act will help to ensure that our horses get the protection they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, on National Animal Advocacy Day I applaud 170 of my colleagues in the House who are cosponsors of the SAFE Act, and encourage the rest of my colleagues to support it as well.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF OLIVIA BAIR ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Olivia Bair of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Olivia's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2018. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Olivia brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2018. While attending Findlay High School in Findlay, Ohio, Olivia served as secretary for both the Red Cross Youth Council and Findlay's chapter of the National Honor Society.

Throughout high school, Olivia was a member of her school's soccer and golf teams. Olivia also participated in the Latin Club as well as played club soccer. In addition, Olivia volunteered her time to her community at City Mission of Findlay. I am confident that Olivia will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Olivia Bair on the offer of her appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Olivia will excel during her career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to the Nation.

HONORING THE 129TH RESCUE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON VICE SQUADRON COMMANDER ROGER DALE HIGBY

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor 129th Rescue Wing Support Squadron Vice Squadron Commander Roger Dale Higby, who is retiring after 52 years in law enforcement.

Mr. Higby moved to California at the age of five. He attended Los Gatos High School and graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree in Law Enforcement from West Valley College. Roger continued his education at San Jose State University where he acquired a Bachelor of Science in Administration of Justice.

Roger began his lengthy law enforcement career in 1961 as a campus police officer at San Jose City College. From 1963 to 1966, Roger served in the United States Army attaining the rank of Sergeant in the Military Police and as a traffic investigator. Afterwards, Mr. Higby served as a weapons specialist in the California Air National Guard. In 1966, he joined the Campbell Police Department and quickly moved up the ranks.

The County of Stanislaus was lucky to acquire him in 1976, when Roger became the Chief of Police of Riverbank. At that time, the department had lost its POST certification and was under the supervision of the Attorney General. In two years, Roger was able to regain that certification and get the department back on track. During this time, he also served in the City of Waterford and taught at Ceres High School.

Mr. Higby spent 20 years with the Modesto Police Department in a variety of departments. He was a Traffic Sergeant, a member of the SWAT team, and Watch Commander. Roger had a 90 percent homicide clearance record when he was a Detective Sergeant.

Since January 2013, he has served as the Vice Squadron Commander at the 129th Rescue Wing Support Squadron at Moffett Airfield.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.